

To: Hestmark, Martin[Hestmark.Martin@epa.gov]; Murray, Bill[Murray.Bill@epa.gov]
From: Woolford, James
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 11:44:19 PM
Subject: FW: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

Forwarding. Checking with Mathy et al.

Jim Woolford, Director
Office of Superfund Remediation & Technology Innovation
US EPA

Sent from my Windows Phone
Please excuse typos

From: Stalcup, Dana
Sent: 8/13/2015 6:25 PM
To: EOC Public Information; EOC Incident Coordinator; EOC Deputy Incident Cord; Woodyard, Josh; Schlieger, Brian; Friedland, Melissa; Dreyfus, Melissa G.; Mahmud, Shahid; Fitz-James, Schatzi; Woolford, James
Subject: Fwd: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

In case you didn't yet, please see OSWER responses to questions - Dana

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Cohen, Nancy" <Cohen.Nancy@epa.gov>
Date: August 13, 2015 at 5:56:24 PM EDT
To: "Dreyfus, Melissa G." <Dreyfus.Melissa@epa.gov>, "Bassler, Rachel" <Bassler.Rachel@epa.gov>, "Deitz, Randy" <Deitz.Randy@epa.gov>
Cc: "Gartner, Lois" <Gartner.Lois@epa.gov>, "Wells, Suzanne" <Wells.Suzanne@epa.gov>, "Stalcup, Dana" <Stalcup.Dana@epa.gov>, "Mahmud, Shahid" <Mahmud.Shahid@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

Deliberative Process/Ex. 5

Deliberative Process/Ex. 5

Thanks, nancy

Nancy Cohen

U.S. EPA OSWER

202.566.0171

From: Dreyfus, Melissa G.

Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:45 PM

To: Cohen, Nancy; Bassler, Rachel; Deitz, Randy

Cc: Gartner, Lois; Wells, Suzanne; Stalcup, Dana; Mahmud, Shahid; Dreyfus, Melissa G.

Subject: Fw: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

Importance: High

Rachel and Nancy,

Please confirm protocol for vetting these responses from OSRTI to media inquiries coming in from EOC on Gold King Mine. My understanding right now is that 1)we propose responses and get Jim Woolford's approval and then 2)you would like to see them for Mathy to approve. 3)Once Mathy approves you send back to me to send over to EOC PIO? Or should OSRTI directly respond to EOC PIO?

Either way, please see proposed responses approved by Jim to Monica Lee's questions on the Administrator's statement on field investigations. Please let me know if you have any concerns.

Thanks

Melissa

Melissa Greer Dreyfus
Environmental Health Scientist
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation
Community Involvement and Program Initiatives Branch

703-603-8792 (phone)
dreyfus.melissa@epa.gov

Physical Address:
One Potomac Yard
2777 S. Crystal Dr
Arlington, VA 22201

From: Gartner, Lois
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:39 PM
To: Dreyfus, Melissa G.
Subject: FW: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

Jim has reviewed and approved—forgot to say that in my msg from a second ago

From: Gartner, Lois
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 3:38 PM
To: Dreyfus, Melissa G.
Subject: RE: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines
Importance: High

Deliberative Process/Ex. 5

Deliberative Process/Ex. 5

From: Bassler, Rachel
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 6:44 PM
To: Woodyard, Josh
Cc: Cohen, Nancy; Deitz, Randy; Wells, Suzanne; Dreyfus, Melissa G.; Stalcup, Dana; Mahmud, Shahid; EOC Public Information; Lee, Monica
Subject: RE: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

Thank you Josh!

From: Woodyard, Josh
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 5:43 PM
To: Bassler, Rachel

Cc: Cohen, Nancy; Deitz, Randy; Wells, Suzanne; Dreyfus, Melissa G.; Stalcup, Dana; Mahmud, Shahid; EOC Public Information
Subject: Re: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

Shahid Mahmud is our OSTRI mining contact and he will be here all day tomorrow. I've ccd him and Dana Stalcup on this question. I'm also ccing our PIO as these questions should be routed through them. Thanks!

Joshua Woodyard, Associate Director

Preparedness and Response Operations Division (PROD)

Office of Emergency Management

202-510-4306 cell

202-564-9588 work

Sent from my iPhone, please excuse typos

On Aug 12, 2015, at 6:33 PM, Bassler, Rachel <Bassler.Rachel@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Josh,

Not sure if Monica came to you yet – but is this something we should route through you or OSRTI?

Thanks,
Rachel

From: Lee, Monica
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 4:48 PM
To: Bassler, Rachel
Subject: FW: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE:

ongoing field work at mines

Hey Rachel – hoping you might be able to help with some questions related to the halt in mining operations that the Administrator put a statement out on today. The Wall Street Journal and AP have some questions. George is working to track down the mining expert in the EOC who might have info, but I wanted to simultaneously run this by you too. Any chance you have info on any of these questions?

1. How many mines does this apply to?
2. Does this mean cleanup work also will stop?
3. Can we elaborate on what the Admin meant by “field investigation work”?
4. Does this hiatus apply to just hardrock mines or other kinds too? And if other kinds, what kinds?

From: Purchia, Liz [<mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 4:47 PM

To: Purchia, Liz

Subject: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy today sent the below directive to Regional Administrators regarding ongoing field work at mines:

While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities, unless there is imminent risk in a specific case. We are in the process of initiating an independent assessment by a sister federal agency or another external entity to examine the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the outcome from that assessment, we will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site and to identify any immediate

threats and consider appropriate response actions.
